

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01

ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00

COME-00 INR-10 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01

STR-07 TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15 EA-10 AF-10 ARA-10

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PARIS PASS TO UNDERSECRETARY COOPER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNCTAD, EFIN

SUBJECT: UNCTAD TDB MEETING: DEBT

1. GROUP B MET FEB 23 TO DISCUSS ARRANGEMENTS FOR FORTHCOMING TDB MINISTERIAL IN PREPARATION FOR MEETING WITH UNCTAD SECRETARIAT ON SUBJECT TOMORROW. AT OUTSET OF MEETING DELEGATIONS REPORTED ON PRESENT OUTLOOK FOR THEIR REPRESENTATION AT TDB. GERMANY REPORTED UNDER-SECRETARY HERMES WOULD BE REPRESENTATIVE AND WOULD BE PRESENT FROM WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON TO SATURDAY. DENMARK WILL BE REPRESENTED BY MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT, WHO WILL BE PRESENT WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY. SWEDISH REP WILL BE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE, WHO WILL ARRIVE MONDAY EVENING AND STAY THROUGH TUESDAY. MRS. HART, MINISTER OF OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT WILL REPRESENT UK. SHE WILL NOT ARRIVE BEFORE WEDNESDAY EVENING. NORWEGIAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MINISTER WILL ATTEND BUT NAME NOT YET KNOWN. AUSTRIAN REP TO BE UNDERSECRETARY NUSSBAUMER (SP?). GREECE HASN'T YET DECIDED. UNDERSECRETARY IS LIKELY. JAPAN PROBABLY WON'T SEND MINISTER. GENEVA AMBASSADOR SAWAKI, ASSISTED BY SENIOR OFFICIAL FROM TOKYO, WILL PROBABLY HEAD JAPANESE DELEGATION. AUSTRALIA, NO DECISION, BUT MINISTER UNLIKELY. AUSTRALIA WILL PROBABLY BE REPRESENTED

BY SENIOR TREASURY OFFICIAL. FINLAND HAS CARETAKER GOVERNMENT AND HASN'T DECIDED IF MINISTER COMING. REPRESENTATIVE LIKELY TO BE AT LEAST FOREIGN OFFICE UNDERSECRETARY. FRANCE REPORTED MINISTER HIGHLY UNLIKELY AND REPRESENTATIVE WILL PROBABLY BE GENEVA AMBASSADOR HESSEL. ITALY, PROBABLY HIGH OFFICIAL FROM FOREIGN MINISTRY OR GENEVA AMBASSADOR. NEW ZEALAND, PROBABLY GENEVA AMBASSADOR FARNON. NETHERLANDS WILL NOT SEND MINISTER. PORTUGAL WILL PROBABLY BE REPRESENTED BY GENEVA AMBASSADOR. IRELAND REPORTED LIKELIHOOD IS THAT NO MINISTER WILL ATTEND. CANADA, BELGIUM, TURKEY, MERELY REPORTED NO DECISION YET REACHED.

2. CONCERNING ORGANIZATION OF MEETING, GROUP B AGREED THAT REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK IN PLENARY AT LEAST INTO THURSDAY. AS EARLIER REPORTED, GROUP OF 77 HAS EXPRESSED HOPE THAT NUMBER OF MINISTERIAL INTERVENTIONS WILL BE LIMITED. GROUP B CONSIDERED IT IMPORTANT TO MAINTAIN RIGHT OF ALL DELEGATION HEADS TO SPEAK AND IT IS NOW CLEAR THAT THERE WILL ALSO BE A NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL STATEMENTS BY GROUP OF 77 COUNTRIES IN ADDITION TO THEIR COMMON STATEMENT. LDGS ALLEGE "40 OR SO" MINISTERS WILL BE COMING FROM THEIR COUNTRIES.

3. FRENCH COORDINATOR REPORTED THAT BOARD CHAIRMAN DE ALWIS HAS REFERRED TO DESIRABILITY OF SEVERAL WORKING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GROUPS RUNNING PARALLEL WITH PLENARY. GROUP B AGREED TO TAKE POSITION THAT IT WOULD BE PREMATURE TO AGREE TO ANY SPECIALIZED WORKING GROUPS UNTIL IT WAS CLEARER WHAT PURPOSE THEY WOULD SERVE. GROUP B AGREED THAT DISCUSSION ON THIS MATTER SHOULD BE KEPT OPEN UNTIL WEEK OF TDB MEETING.

4. JAPANESE RAISED QUESTION OF WHETHER THERE SHOULD BE GROUP B STATEMENT IN RESPONSE TO INTENDED G-77 STATEMENT. SEVERAL REPRESENTATIVES CONSIDERED THIS WOULD BE GOOD IDEA WHILE OTHERS FELT THAT EXERCISE WOULD BE DIFFICULT AND PERHAPS UNNECESSARY. IT WAS AGREED THAT QUESTION WOULD BE DISCUSSED AT FIRST GROUP B COORDINATING MEETING MONDAY, MARCH 6 AND THAT IF ANY DELEGATIONS CONSIDERED SUCH STATEMENT AS DESIRABLE, THEY SHOULD COME WITH PRECISE IDEAS OF CONTENTS. SINCE GROUP B STATEMENT, IF THERE IS TO BE ONE, SHOULD PRECEDE INTERVENTIONS BY INDIVIDUAL GROUP B DELEGATIONS AND SINCE SOME GROUP B DELS PLAN TO SPEAK AS EARLY AS TUESDAY AFTERNOON, THERE WOULD BE ONLY LIMITED TIME TO WORK OUT ANY GROUP B STATEMENT.

5. COORDINATOR REPORTED THAT MINISTER FROM SRI LANKA

PLANS TO ATTEND AND ACCORDINGLY LOCAL SRI LANKA AMB
DE ALWIS, WHO IS TDB CHAIRMAN, PROPOSES STEPPING DOWN
SO THAT HIS MINISTER CAN SERVE AS CHAIRMAN. IT IS
ASSUMED THAT THIS CHANGE WOULD BE LARGELY FORMAL AND
THAT DE ALWIS WILL MAINTAIN EFFECTIVE DIRECTION.
CONCERNING GROUP B COORDINATION, FRENCH PROPOSED THAT
THEIR GENEVA PERM REP AMBASSADOR HESSEL, WHO WILL HEAD
THEIR DELEGATION, SERVE AS COORDINATOR.
VANDEN HEUVEL

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